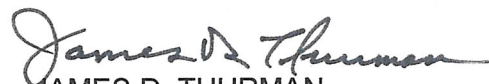




27 February 2013

### **Preparations for Potential Sequestration and Furlough Notifications**

1. The Department of Defense (DoD) is faced with unprecedented fiscal uncertainty in Fiscal Year 2013. I am deeply concerned about the potential direct impact of sequestration on our civilian workforce and their families.
2. On 20 Feb 2013, the Secretary of Defense notified Congress if sequestration takes effect on 1 March 2013, civilian furloughs could occur. Should sequestration occur and continue for a substantial period, DoD will be forced to implement civilian workforce administrative furloughs. The furlough will affect the majority of our civilian workforce with some exceptions (those deployed in a combat zone, those who protect the safety of life or property to the extent needed, non-appropriated fund employees, foreign nationals and certain positions or functional areas approved by the Office of the Secretary of Defense).
3. USFK will work to ensure our workforce is kept informed and if furloughs are executed, they are done in a consistent and appropriate manner. As we work through this process, we will be completely transparent, and we will communicate guidelines and any changes to the workforce as quickly as possible. I can assure you that, if we have to implement furloughs, all affected employees will be provided at least 30 days' notice and your benefits will be protected to the maximum extent possible.
4. I want to thank our civilian employees for your patience and hard work. We could not do our mission without you. You provide invaluable support to national security, our nation's war fighters, and to our families. You are critical members of our workforce, and we are grateful for the countless contributions you continue to provide USFK.
5. I encourage you to visit the USFK website for more information and updates.

  
JAMES D. THURMAN  
General, U.S. Army  
Commander

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